

PSRA League Playing Rules (updated 9/11/2024)

1. This Association shall abide by The Playing Rules of Squash as specified by US Squash. See <https://ussquash.org/rules-of-squash/>, including those rules for lets, strokes and mandatory eyewear.

2. Regular Season

2.1. Scheduling

2.1.1. Except as may otherwise be designated by the Executive Committee, the scheduled days for league matches shall be as follows:

Open & 5.0 Singles - Wednesday

4.5 Singles - Thursday

4.0 Singles - Tuesday

3.0 & 3.5 Singles - Monday

Women's 4.0 Singles - Thursday

Women's 3.0 Singles - Thursday

Tier 1 Doubles - Thursday

Tier 2 Doubles - Tuesday

Tier 3 Doubles - Wednesday

Tier 4 Doubles - Thursday

Mixed Tier 1/2 Doubles - Monday (Fall)

Women's Doubles - Tuesday

2.1.2. The Executive Committee shall decide the number of times each team entered in any league shall play pursuant to the suggestions of the Scheduling Committee.

2.2. Team Format

2.2.1. Doubles teams shall consist of two (2) pairs of players.

2.2.2. Singles teams will consist of three (3) or four (4) players, depending on season and level.

2.2.3. Lineup

2.2.3.1. Stacking of a lineup is not permitted and may result is default of entire match

2.2.3.2. For Singles, all playing positions on the team will be determined by the player's rating or by documented challenge match (entered appropriately into the US Squash match database). If there is no rating available for a player, then the best judgment of the captain of the team is assumed. If contested, then will be subject to approval of league committee. Such factors as player rating history and head to head competition will be considered.

2.2.3.3. For Doubles, all playing positions on the team shall be determined internally according to challenge ladder results or, if no challenge match results are available, on order of ability as determined by the best judgment of the team captain.

2.3. Captain's Responsibilities (new and revised)

- 2.3.1. Captains are expected to read and understand these PSRA League Playing Rules and be aware of the league playing schedule. Appropriate links to the league teams and schedule are available at the PSRA PhillyBoast website - <https://www.phillyboast.org/>.
- 2.3.2. Captains are expected to manage their rosters and to confirm that their player's memberships are up to date and are otherwise eligible to play in the specific league that their team is registered in.
- 2.3.3. Captains are expected to communicate with opposing captains to confirm scheduling of regular season and playoff matches. **They are required to contact the opposing captain, at least 3 days prior to the scheduled date to confirm date, time and location of the match, and that they will be sending an appropriate team to play.**
- 2.3.4. Captains are expected to produce lineups for all regular season and playoff matches. **They should provide their lineup in writing to the opposing captain at least one day prior to the scheduled date of the match.** This may be accomplished via the Lineup functionality within Club Locker, or as a fallback, via email or text message.
- 2.3.5. It is the responsibility of both captains to report and confirm results through the Club Locker web application supplied by USSquash. **Scores MUST be recorded no later than one week after the *originally* scheduled date of the match. An exception would be for the last match of the regular season and for all playoff matches, in which case the match must be recorded by the next day following the match. If no score is recorded in the time indicated, it will be considered a double default and recorded as such.**

2.4. Eligibility

- 2.4.1. All players are required to be both PSRA and US Squash members at the time that a match is scheduled to be played. Please note that both the PSRA and US Squash use a rolling membership year, and that the membership dates for the PSRA and US Squash coincide (except in the case of lifetime memberships in either).
- 2.4.2. In case of the emergency situation where a non-roster player is used for a match, that player is required to be a PSRA and US Squash member at the time of the match.
- 2.4.3. In the event that a player is not a current member of the PSRA and US Squash, the offending team will lose credit for the match win.
- 2.4.4. We have enabled a grace period for each season that ends 2 weeks after the first day of the first league to start. We have also enabled grace period of one week from the scheduled date of each match. If the membership is made current within the current season's grace period or within the match grace period, the match win(s) will be restored.

2.5. Referee Exam (currently on hold and for singles only)

- 2.5.1. To encourage better knowledge of the Rules and safer play, teams in each league will be rewarded if all of their active players have taken and passed the US Squash Club Referee exam as of midnight of the last match date of each season. In regards to this rule, active players shall include any who have earned a match by default.

2.6. Exclusions

- 2.6.1. The Ranking Committee has the authority to certify all players for league play regardless of their age and former league record.
- 2.6.2. Male Squash Pros are not eligible to play in the Mixed Tier 1/2 Doubles league. Exceptions to this rule may be granted by the ranking committee, based on the age and/or skill level of the player involved.
- 2.6.3. No player can represent more than one member club in the same league, nor can a player represent one member club on two different teams in the same league. If a player does participate on a second team in the same league, or on a team of a different member club in the same league, all such matches played by such individual for the second team or for the team of a second member club will be forfeited.
- 2.6.4. Players under 19 years of age are not permitted to play in the 4.0 and below Singles Leagues without permission of the Executive Committee. Players under 19 are permitted to play in the 4.5 Singles League, but must meet the rating requirement at the time of the match. Furthermore any 4.5 team may put forth only one Under 19 player into the lineup for any single league team match.

2.7. Substitute Players

- 2.7.1. In the event that a regular member of a team is unable to play, a substitute player may be added to the team's roster and shall be allowed to play for the team.
- 2.7.2. The substitute player must meet all playing qualifications of a rostered player, include membership status and playing ability.
- 2.7.3. The player shall be substituted at the position commensurate with his or her level of ability rather than the position of the player being substituted for.
- 2.7.4. If no player is substituted, the player or players below the absent member shall move up one position to fill the missing position and the lowest match position on the team shall be defaulted.
- 2.7.5. A player classified in a lower league may play as a substitute on a higher league team and his right to play on his regular team will not be affected. A player who substitutes more than two times in a higher rated league will be reclassified at the higher level and will be ineligible to play in the lower level league from that time forward through the end of the season, including playoffs.

2.8. Defaults

- 2.8.1. In the event a player (including any substitute player) is unable to play a match on the evening of date originally scheduled (or rescheduled by mutual agreement of the team captains – see below) such match shall be defaulted to the player (including any substitute player) who was ready to play on the scheduled date unless the match is cancelled by agreement of both team captains, in which case neither team will be awarded a point for the match.
- 2.8.2. If a court is available for play and a player or team is not ready for play within 30 minutes of the official starting time, the tardy player or pair of players is liable to default at the option of the player or team prepared for play, unless by prior mutual agreement a contrary arrangement has been made, subject to section 2.9.
- 2.8.3. Any team that defaults 25% or more of their individual matches during the season will not be eligible to win its league and shall not participate in league playoff competition.

2.9. Playing Matches on Scheduled Date

- 2.9.1. All teams should endeavor to play league matches, both regular season and playoff, on the date scheduled, ideally with a starting time for the first match falling in the range of 6:30PM to 7:00PM, depending on the home club's court scheduling policy. Variations to the starting time are subject to the agreement of both captains.
- 2.9.2. If either captain requests to reschedule a regular season match, and the other captain agrees to the reschedule, the match should preferably be played prior to the scheduled date and MUST be played (and recorded) no later than six days following the scheduled date. Exceptions include the last scheduled regular season match and any playoff match, which MUST be completed by the original scheduled date.
- 2.9.3. If a match is agreed to be played, in theory or specifically, on a date other than the scheduled date and the match does not get played for ANY reason (including availability of players, weather, or *either captain simply changing their mind*) then the team originally requesting the reschedule will default the match to the other team.
- 2.9.4. *Recommended practice - if a match is agreed to be rescheduled to a date later than the original date, then on the scheduled date the score should be entered as a default loss for the team requesting the reschedule, and then changed to the actual score upon playing of the match, which, again, should be played within six days of the originally scheduled date.*

3. Data errors

- 3.1.1. If you feel the recorded results are in error, please contact the league recorder, currently [Ken Jaffe](#).
- 3.1.2. If you feel that membership information is incorrect, please contact the US Squash Membership Officer at Membership@USSquash.org.

4. Playoffs

- 4.1. In order to qualify for playoff positioning, ALL regular season matches need to be completed by the date of the last scheduled regular season match on the league's schedule, and that ALL results, including player names, must be submitted by the end of that next day through the web site, or by email to the league recorder [Ken Jaffe](#) if the website is unavailable.
- 4.2. The order of finish at the end of the season, in preparation for the playoffs, will be determined by the following:
 1. Percentage of individual matches scheduled which were won.
 2. Highest percentage of games won vs. matches scheduled (a default win = 3-0).
 3. Lowest percentage of games lost vs. matches scheduled (a default loss = 0-3).
 4. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on individual matches won.
 5. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on most number of games won (default win = 3-0 win).
 6. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on least number of games lost (default loss = 0-3 loss).
 7. If both teams would still make the playoffs, then a coin toss will determine the order of finish.
 8. If one of the teams would not be included in the playoffs, then a (regular season format) playoff match between the teams will be held at a neutral court. The winner of the playoff match will be determined by:
 1. Matches won
 2. Games won
 3. Points won
 4. Sudden death game will be played commencing within 5 minutes of determination that a tie did exist. Each club may select a player (singles) or form a 2-player team (doubles (one male and one female for Mixed Doubles)) from the players utilized in the tied play-off match.
- 4.3. In the event that one Team (A) has a substantial number of default wins where they make the playoffs to the detriment of another Team (B) that has a higher percentage of actual (non-default) wins vs number of matches played that were likewise not default wins, but doesn't make the playoffs, then, upon appeal from Team B, *within 24 hours of playoff matches being announced*, the league committee and association president may elect to hold a playoff feed-in match between the 2 teams. Factors may be taken into account such as the default record of each of the teams.
- 4.4. In order to be eligible to participate on a team in league playoff competition, a player must have competed in at least two league matches for that team during the regular season. A win by default does count as an exposure. A loss by default does not count as an exposure. *At least one league exposure must actually be played (i.e. not a default).*

- 4.5. Every playoff match (whether in a preliminary or final round) for a league title shall be played on the evening of the date scheduled unless both team captains agree, with the approval of the President of the Association, to reschedule the match, or unless the match cannot be played on the date scheduled by reason of an Act of God or unplayable courts (in which case the match shall be rescheduled by the President of the Association).
- 4.6. For singles leagues, all playoff matches will be of the same format as the regular season matches, and subject to the same rules (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 4.7. For the Tier 1 and Mixed Tier1/2 doubles leagues, all playoff matches will be of the same format as the regular season matches, and subject to the same rules (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 4.8. For doubles leagues other than those listed in 3.7 above, playoffs matches will consist of 3 matches. Thus, each team must qualify 6 players for the playoffs. If a team is unable to field 6 players, then they will default any and all spots that they can't fill (starting with the 3rd spot and then the 2nd spot). These playoff matches are otherwise subject to the same rules as regular season matches (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 4.9. All playoff matches, including finals, will be hosted by the team that finished higher in the division. A neutral court for the finals will only be used in the case where there are two separate but equal divisions in the league, where the first place team from each division plays the second place team in the other division in the semi-finals, and the resultant winners playing in the finals are of equal seeding.
- 4.10. The winning team of a playoff match shall be decided by:
 1. Matches won
 2. Games won
 3. Points won
 4. Sudden death game will be played commencing within 5 minutes of determination that a tie did exist. Each club may select a player (singles) or form a 2-player team (doubles (one male and one female for Mixed Doubles)) from the players utilized in the tied play-off match.

5. A note regarding District Tournaments

5.1. A team which wins the Philadelphia District Tier 2, 3 or 4 Doubles Tournament shall not be eligible to participate in such tournament for a period of 5 years; however, the individual members of the above referenced team shall be eligible to participate with a new partner in such tournament if the entry constitutes a bona fide team at the appropriate level.

5.2. Age Exception

5.2.1. A player, due to their age, may request dispensation to compete in a lower skill level doubles tournament than they have competed in the past. Such requests should be directed to the tournament director(s) and/or president of the association.

5.2.2. The Ranking Committee has the authority to certify all players for tournament play regardless of their age and former league record.

Link to These Rules:



Link to PSRA Website – PhillyBoast.org:

